

BIMM 100 – Molecular Biology

Fall 2018, 4 units

Instructor: Jens Lykke-Andersen, 3218 Bonner Hall.

E-mail: jlykkeandersen@ucsd.edu (**Important: please use the subject line: 'BIMM 100'**). E-mails sent before 8 AM Mon-Fri will generally be answered on the same day. E-mails sent later than 8 AM will generally be answered the following weekday.

Phone: 858-822-3659 (please identify yourself as a student in BIMM 100).

Office hours: Thursdays 11-12 noon in 3146 Bonner Hall, starting Thursday October 11. (There will be no office hours on Thursdays Nov 1 and Nov 22)

Instructional Assistants/Tutors:

Aubrey, Megan Marie	mmaubrey@ucsd.edu
Ren, Xiangyu	x8ren@ucsd.edu
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Class website: On TritonEd (Ted): <http://tritoned.ucsd.edu>

Class hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:30 – 10:50 AM, in Peterson 108.

Important dates (<http://blink.ucsd.edu/instructors/resources/enrollment-calendars.html>):

Friday, October 26:	Deadline to drop the class without "W" on transcript.
Tuesday, October 30:	MIDTERM (9:30-10:50 AM; in class).
Friday, November 9:	Deadline to drop with "W" grade.
Thursday, December 13:	FINAL EXAM (8:00A-10:59A)

- For other important dates, see the Class Schedule.

Course Prerequisites: 1) BILD1 (The Cell), 2) lab class, BILD 4 or BIMM 101 or BIBC 103, and 3) Organic chemistry: [CHEM 40A or CHEM 40AH and CHEM 40B or CHEM 40BH] OR BENG 120. If you feel rusty on the material of the prerequisites, it is strongly recommended that you carefully read Chapters 1-3 and Chapter 5, pp171-182, of the *Lodish* textbook, which cover material that is considered prerequisite and will only be mentioned in passing during class. Prerequisite classes for BIMM100 cannot be waived.

Purpose of the course: Molecular Biology is the study of gene structure, function and regulation at the molecular level. It describes fundamental mechanisms, shaped by evolution, that underlie all known life on our planet - mechanisms that when impaired, for example by mutation or by parasitic interference, lead to human disease. You will be introduced to our current understanding of genome structure and gene expression and the key experimental observations and deductions made by scientists, which have shaped, and continues to shape,

our knowledge in this rapidly developing field of biology. As you will learn, this is a field of intense research with new exciting discoveries reported daily.

Learning objectives: After taking this class, you should know the key concepts of the central dogma of molecular biology and how insights into these concepts have been gained through experimental observations. You should also be able to interpret, and predict the outcome of, basic experiments to study factors and pathways in molecular biology processes.

The specific topics covered include the composition of genomes and the basic mechanisms of replication, transcription, RNA processing, translation and RNA turnover, and how the complexes that perform these activities identify their targets, carry out their function and can be regulated to meet cellular needs.

Doing well in this class requires solid prior understanding of biochemistry and organic chemistry.

COURSE STRUCTURE:

BIMM100 is a large class with ≈200-400 students, which all have different ways of learning. In an attempt to teach to all students, the course is structured in a way that offers multiple learning tools. These include:

Textbook: Lodish et al. 'Molecular Cell Biology' 8th edition, Freeman, 2016 is optional, but highly recommended (earlier editions are okay as well, but require a little more work identifying the proper pages). There are copies on reserve in the Biomedical Library. It is a reasonable and clear reference to own if you will continue in the biomedical sciences and is also used in BICD 110 - Cell Biology. It will give you another view of the material treated in lecture. The subjects treated in lecture are the materials you will be tested on; however reading the same topics in the book explains the selection of topics a second time, sometimes in greater depth.

Lectures: Lectures will cover the central topics of molecular biology in the order indicated in the schedule, although the specific order can deviate a bit from that indicated depending on time. The order of the topics discussed during lectures is different from the order in the textbook. The lectures are divided into three sections covering 1) Genes & Genomes, 2) Basic mechanisms of gene expression, and 3) Regulation of gene expression. Along the way, we will discuss key experiments and deductions that underlie the understanding of the different processes. The pages in the textbook corresponding to the material discussed during lectures are indicated in the schedule.

On the day before each lecture, at the latest, a copy of the lecture slides (in pdf format) will be uploaded on the course website. It is highly recommended that you download and print out the lecture slides so that you can follow the lecture by taking notes on it. They comprise a skeletal record of what happens in the lecture. However, you may find the lecture slides unintelligible without your own written notes. Therefore, don't think of them as a second, independent "book" you can read but instead as a collaborative record of the lecture that you will create.

Clickers: To achieve extra credit, you will need an i-clicker. New and used i-clickers are available at the Price Center bookstore. Make sure to get an i-clicker and not a different system (such as H-ITT or PRS). i-clickers 1 and 2 are both compatible with the class.

Clickers will be used for rapid feedback to foster interactive learning in a large classroom setting. Clicker questions (usually 5-10 per class) will be used during class time to make students think about, and discuss with each other, how the newly discussed material fits within the bigger picture of molecular biology, and how experimental observation and experimental design can address questions in molecular biology.

To obtain as much credit for clicker use as possible, please register your i-clicker ASAP, and no later than **Friday Oct 5**, on the **class website** (<http://tritoned.ucsd.edu>).

Assignments: Class assignments will be posted on the class website on most Thursdays during the quarter (see the schedule for the specific dates). Assignments are used as a tool to promote understanding of the discussed topics through problem solving. It is optional to work through the assignments and they are not handed in. However, it is very strongly recommended to work through these either alone or in study groups.

To best prepare yourself for exams, I highly recommend you to sit down with each assignment and take them as if they were exams – i.e. write down your answers. Do this before hearing answers from other students, discussion sections and/or keys.

Answer keys for assignments will be posted after the last Discussion section each week.

Discussion sections: Discussion sections will be held by IAs once a week, most weeks of the quarter (see Discussion section schedule). The discussions will be based on the Assignments posted the previous week. The IAs will lead a discussion based on the Assignments to make participating students arrive at the correct answers. The IAs will not provide the answers on their own. To get the most out of Discussion sections, it is therefore critical to have first worked through the Assignments alone or in study groups and then to participate in the discussion during the Discussion sections. Discussion sections are optional, but highly recommended. Active participation in Discussion sections helps your learning. **Therefore, as an incentive to actively participate in Discussion sections, 1% extra credit will be given to each of the 1-3 students that are most helpful to other students (i.e. most active) in each section.**

IAs will announce their personal office hours at the first meeting of the sections. If you cannot make it to your IA's office hour you are welcome to attend office hours of any other IA and/or the Professor. The time and location of Discussion sections and office hours will also be posted on the class website.

Practice exams: Practice exam questions will be posted about one week before each exam. As for assignments, to best prepare yourself for exams, I highly recommend you to sit down with practice exam questions and take them as if they were exams – i.e. write down your answers. Do this before hearing answers from other students, discussion sections and/or keys.

Before each exam, a review class will be held by IAs to go over practice exam questions and take general Q&A. Practice exam keys will be posted immediately after the review class.

EXAMS & GRADING:

Your grade in BIMM 100 is based entirely on your final score. Your final score will be calculated the following way:

Midterm (40% of final score): The midterm exam is closed book and given during class time. It covers the material discussed up until the exam (see Schedule). The time of the midterm can be found in the schedule.

Final Exam (60% of final score): The final exam is given during finals week (see schedule). It is closed book and will cover the broader concepts of the entire course with focus on the specific material covered after the midterm.

- Questions on the Midterm and Final will be in short answer format and must be answered in ink. Pencil can be used, but if so, no regrade can be requested.

- Pens and ID card (student ID or driver's license) are the only personal items you may have with you during the exam; any other items you bring (backpacks, phones turned OFF, etc) must be placed entirely under your seat and are subject to being moved at the IAs' and professor's discretion.

- There will be no scheduled make-up exams for the midterm or final. Failure to take the exam at the assigned time and place will result in a grade of zero for that exam. Extraordinary circumstances preventing you from taking an exam at the scheduled time must be submitted in writing and include official documentation of the cause as far in advance as possible to the instructor (Dr. Lykke-Andersen). If an exception is made for these extraordinary circumstances, a make-up will generally be a 2-hour oral exam in Dr. Lykke-Andersen's office.

- Requests to reconsider any grading must be submitted in writing along with your original exam to the instructor (Dr. Lykke-Andersen) during class or office hours. Regrading is limited to grading mistakes, and is not granted to requests for more partial credit for incorrect answers. The full request must be received within one week of the exam return date. If regrading is granted, the entire exam will be regraded. If anything on the exam submitted for regrading is found to be altered, it will be considered a breach in academic honesty and will be grounds for failure of the course as well as any additional disciplinary actions as indicated by the policy to maintain academic honesty (see section on Academic Integrity below).

- Any student who is observed to look at and/or copy off another student's paper during a midterm and/or final will be reported to the Academic Integrity Office according to university policy for an investigation into academic dishonesty (see section on Academic Integrity below).

Clicker use (up to 5% of extra credit): This is based entirely on clicker use, not on whether you get the answers right. For each lecture, usage of the clicker for the majority of questions during the lecture will result in full credit for that lecture. ***Note: It is your responsibility to remember to bring your clicker to every lecture and making sure that batteries are charged; i.e. no clicker credit will be awarded retroactively if the clicker is not used or doesn't work during lecture.*** (However, with the expectation that all students forget their clicker once during the quarter, missing clicker use 1-2 lectures will still result in full extra credit for the quarter). To get credit for the whole quarter, make sure that your clicker is registered with the class no later than **Fri Oct 5**.

- Make sure to not cheat with clickers by having someone other than yourself using your clicker, or bringing someone else's clicker, during class. This is considered a breach in academic honesty and will be reported to the Academic Integrity Office according to university policy for an investigation into academic dishonesty (see section on Academic Integrity below). Appropriate clicker use will be monitored by the instructor and IAs during class.

Active participation in Discussion Sections (up to 1% extra credit): Given to the 1-3 most active students in each section.

Letter grades are assigned as follows:

<u>Class Score</u>	<u>Letter grade</u>
90-100:	A
80-89:	B
70-79:	C
60-69:	D
Below 60:	F

+/- grades are given to those close to the next grade level.

Since your own grade is not influenced in any way by how your classmates perform, working together with your classmates will only help everyone involved. Studying in groups is highly recommended!

TIPS ON HOW TO DO WELL:

BIMM 100 (like many other university courses) is complex enough to reward the student who gives some thought to how to take it. The most important trick is to keep up. The pace is unrelenting because BIMM 100 must sometimes move rapidly using less than 20 lectures to cover the field of molecular biology, which is a rapidly expanding field due to intense research.

The following practices will help you best prepare for the exams:

1. Print out lecture slides before each lecture.
2. Be present and take good notes during lectures (the lecturer will often use the board for explanation, which slows down the pace and allows you to take notes on the lecture slides).
3. **Actively participate** in thinking about, and in peer discussions of, clicker questions.
4. Read the textbook – preferably before class (planned topics and corresponding textbook pages are indicated in the schedule).
5. Sit down and work through assignments and practice exams writing down all answers to the best of your ability - always **before** getting answers from Discussion Sections, Review Classes, posted keys or other students. These (along with clicker questions) will give you the best idea of how exam questions are formulated.
6. Actively participate in discussions of the assignments during **Discussion sections**.
7. **Work in Study groups!**
8. Do NOT “cram” last minute for the exams! Instead stay on top of the material throughout the quarter.

In addition, the “Solved Problems” at the end of each *Lodish* Chapter can give useful practice in problem solving.

Since your grade will be decided entirely from your final score and not based on how you do compared to other students in the class, it will never hurt you to help fellow students. In fact, research on learning has shown that whether you are on top of the material or are having a hard time understanding the concepts, you will improve your learning by discussing the material with other students. Participation in study groups and in peer discussion of clicker questions is therefore highly recommended.

A note of caution: Memorizing slides and texts is not an efficient method of learning for this class. While some memorization is required to become literate in molecular biology, the primary goal of the course, and what you will be primarily tested on, is understanding the key broader concepts of molecular biology and using this to formulate predictions and to interpret observations from simple molecular biology experiments as tested primarily through problem solving questions in the exams. These skills are best achieved by following the practices listed above.

CLASS POLICIES:

Attendance: Attendance in class and during Discussion sections is optional, but very strongly encouraged. You simply will not do well in the class if you do not put in significant effort.

Classroom etiquette: Please refrain from eating, surfing the web, texting and engaging in conversations (except when prompted during clicker questions), or anything else that might distract others and yourself from paying attention during lectures. Please make sure to shut off cell phones. If you must leave class early, please sit in the back in an aisle seat so you can exit with the least amount of disruption to others.

Academic integrity: All suspicions of academic misconduct will be reported to the Academic Integrity Office according to university policy.

Those students found to have committed academic misconduct will face administrative sanctions imposed by their college Dean of Student Affairs and academic sanctions imposed by me. The standard administrative sanctions include: the creation of a disciplinary record (which will be checked by graduate and professional schools); disciplinary probation; and attendance at an Academic Integrity Seminar (at a cost of \$75). Students can also face suspension and dismissal from the University; those sanctions are not at my discretion. Academic sanctions can range from loss of clicker credit, a score of zero on an exam, to an F in the class. The appropriate sanctions are determined by the egregiousness of the Policy violation. Students who assist in or are complicit with cheating could also be in violation of the Policy. Thus, students who become aware of their peers either facilitating academic misconduct or committing it should report their suspicions to me for investigation.

Please review UCSD’s Policy on Academic Integrity, which can be found on this website: <https://students.ucsd.edu/academics/academic-integrity/>

It should be needless to say that it is much easier to pass this course, and any future courses that use this course as a prerequisite, by putting the energy into understanding the material of the course rather than into an attempt to pass the course by cheating.

Note that we have devised methods for monitoring for cheating with clickers and exams in this class; please do not be tempted to cheat.

Letters of recommendation requirements: Acceptance into programs to further your education can be very competitive and thus you should carefully choose letter writers who know you well and who can honestly state that you achieved one of the top scores in their class and that your demonstrated enthusiasm, diligence and hard work makes the writer confident that you will be an excellent candidate for the school of application. Therefore, for me to write a letter of recommendation, you must have received an 'A' in the class and you must have been an active participant that I have had a chance of interacting with during the quarter. Given the size of the BIMM 100 class, lecturers of smaller classes or labs, or research supervisors, will usually know you much better and their letters of recommendation will therefore usually carry much more weight; that said, I am happy to assist with letters if you feel that a letter from me will carry the most weight of any you can obtain.

Disabilities: If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me an AFA letter from the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) as soon as possible, and no later than the second week of class, so that your needs may be addressed. The OSD determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Please see guidelines at: <http://disabilities.ucsd.edu/>

Responsibilities:

In a class of 200-400 students it is impossible to teach directly to everyone's needs.

It is my (and the IAs) responsibility to keep the class organized, to come to class well prepared and to provide students with multiple pathways to learning the topics, including lecture slides, explanations on the board, clicker questions, assignments, practice exams, discussion sections, and office hours.

It is your responsibility to put a significant effort into the class, by coming to class with printed lecture slides, taking notes, actively participating in clicker questions/peer discussions, reading the textbook, working through assignments and actively participating in the discussion of assignments during IA discussion sections.

This way, BIMM 100 should be an enjoyable and exciting learning experience. Embrace this opportunity to understand the basics of molecular biology and, perhaps, one day you will make the next breakthrough in this rapidly growing field in biology and medicine!

GOOD LUCK!

BIMM 100 - Molecular Biology, Fall 2018, Lykke-Andersen – Schedule

Date^(**) Lecture# Planned Topic Lodish 8th ed^(***) (*Chapter: Pages*)

Genes & Genomes

Sept 27	1a,b	Overview, Central Dogma	
Oct 2		DNA, DNA Replication	2: 45-46; 5: 167-172 5: 197-203
Oct 4 ^(*)	3	Telomeres DNA repair	8: 347-349 5: 203-212
Oct 9	4	Genes & genomes DNA sequencing	8: 301-309 6: 243-245
Oct 11 ^(*)	5	Noncoding & Mobile DNA PCR	8: 309-323 6: 239-241
Oct 16	6	Recombinant DNA techniques Gene inactivation	6: 234-247, 249-253. 6: 259-268

Basic Mechanisms of Gene Expression

Oct 18 ^(*)	7	Transcription Northern blotting	5: 176-179; 9: 363-373 6: 247
Oct 23	8	Eukaryotic Pol-I, -II, -III transcription	9: 373-380, 412-414
Oct 25	9	rRNA, tRNA processing mRNA capping, polyadenylation	10: 461-468 10: 417-421, 430-434

Oct 30 **Midterm** (in class; covers lectures 1-7)

Nov 1 ^(*)	10	pre-mRNA splicing Nuclear export	10: 423-428 10: 440-444
Nov 6	11	Translation mRNA turnover	5: 183-197 10: 445-447

Regulation of Gene Expression

Nov 8 ^(*)	12	Transcriptional Regulation	9: 356-360 9: 363-367, 378-381
Nov 13	13	Transcription Activators Chromatin	9: 381-389, 396-397 8: 327-341
Nov 15 ^(*)	14	Chromatin remodeling Chromatin immunoprecipitation	9: 390-396, 398-411 9: 373
Nov 20	15	Post-transcriptional gene regulation	10: 435-440, 451-452, 456-457
Nov 22	Thanksgiving – no class		
Nov 27	16	Gene regulation by non-coding RNAs	9: 409-411 10: 445-451, 452-461
Nov 29 ^(*)	17	Extra Topic	
Dec 4	18	Extra Topic	
Dec 6	19	Extra Topic	

Thur, Dec 13 FINAL EXAM 8:00 – 10:59 AM

(*) : Problem sets #1-7, for discussion during discussion sections, will be posted in the afternoons on Thursdays indicated.

(**): Classes are on Tu/Th 9:30-10:50 AM in Peterson 108.

(***): Textbook: "Molecular Cell Biology", 8th edition, Lodish et al., 2016. Note: textbook is optional; older editions can also be used.

BIMM 100 – Discussion Sections:

<u>SECTION/DAY/TIME</u>			<u>PLACE</u>	<u>IA</u>	<u>Office hour (place)</u>
A01	M	10:00a-10:50a	HSS 1305	Diya Basrai	Tue 1-2 PM (PC Theater Lobby)
A02	M	11:00a-11:50a	HSS 1305	Sedtavut Nilaad	Mon 9-10 AM (Muir Woods Coffee House)
A03	M	12:00p-12:50p	HSS 1305	Brenda Hug	Mon 11 AM-12 PM (Roots)
A04	Tu	11:00a-11:50a	APM 2301	Enlin Wei	Thur 11 AM-12 PM Perks cafe (in the bookstore)
A05	Tu	12:00p-12:50p	APM 2301	Song Cao	Tue 5-6 PM (AP&M 3880)
A06	W	1:00p-1:50p	HSS 2154	Megan Aubrey	Fri 10-11 AM (NSB 5111)
A07	W	2:00p-2:50p	HSS 2154	Megan Aubrey	Fri 10-11 AM (NSB 5111)
A08	F	8:00a-8:50a	CENTR 207	Xiangyu Ren	Fri 10-11 AM (Art of Espresso)
A09	F	9:00a-9:50a	CENTR 207	Xiangyu Ren	Fri 10-11 AM (Art of Espresso)

Discussion sections start Mon Oct 8 and end Fri Dec 7, 2018.

NOTE: No discussion sections are scheduled for:

Mon, Oct 29 – Fri, Nov 2 (week of the Midterm)

Mon, Nov 12 (Veterans day; there will a Mon section on Nov 19 instead)

Tue, Nov 20 – Fri, Nov 23 (Tue-Fri of week of Thanksgiving)